

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 11, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 12, 14, and 16 have been allowed and claims 5, 7, 9, and 13 have been objected to but are otherwise allowable. Claims 1, 10, and 11 have been amended. Claims 17 and 18 have been newly added. Accordingly, after entry of this amendment, the pending claims will be claims 1-18.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, and 15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,118,474 to Nayar ("Nayar" or the "Nayar Reference") in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,185, 667 to Zimmermann ("Zimmermann" or the "Zimmermann Reference") further in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,366,360 to Ejiri, et al. ("Ejiri" or the "Ejiri Reference"); claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nayar in view of Zimmermann and Ejiri, further in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,675,380 to Florent, et al.; and claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nayar in view of Zimmermann and Ejiri, further in view of admitted prior art. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections in view of the above amendments and for reasons detailed below.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, and 15

Claim 1 recites an imaging system that includes a correction section for "correcting distortion in the captured image based on a relationship between a value F regarding a distance between a lens position adapted for the coordinate transformation and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device that does not satisfy requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface and a value F_0 regarding a distance between a lens position and a light-receiving surface of the

imaging device that satisfies requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface." Claims 10 and 11 have been similarly amended. Support for the amendments can be found on pages 34 and 35.

The Examiner admits that, neither Nayar nor Zimmerman teaches, mentions or suggests "correcting distortion in the captured image based on a value regarding a distance between a lens position adapted for the coordinate transformation and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device". Furthermore, the Examiner asserts that, Ejiri discloses an imaging system with a CCD camera and an image correction unit and, further, discloses a variable distance R between the center of the lens and the light-receiving surface. Moreover, the Examiner maintains that, Ejiri discloses correcting captured distorted image by calculating distortion aberration coefficients based on the distance R between the center of the lens and the light-receiving surface.

However, Ejiri does not teach, mention or suggest an imaging system or imaging methods that bases correcting distortion in the captured image on a relationship between a value F regarding a distance between a lens position adapted for the coordinate transformation and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device that does not satisfy requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface and a value F₀ regarding a distance between a lens position and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device that satisfies requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, and 15 are not made obvious by Nayar in view of Zimmermann, further in view of Ejiri and, moreover, satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a). As such, the Applicants believe that the claims are allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

Claim 3

Nor can the Florent reference make up for the deficiencies of the other three patents. Specifically, the Florent reference does not teach, mention or suggest correcting distortion "based on a relationship between a value F regarding a distance between a lens position adapted for the coordinate transformation and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device that does not satisfy requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface and a value F_0 regarding a distance between a lens position and a light-receiving surface of the imaging device that satisfies requirements for central projection onto the light-receiving surface."

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, claim 3 is not made obvious by Nayar in view of Zimmermann and Ejiri, further in view of Florent and, moreover, satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a). As such, the Applicants believe that claim 3 is allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

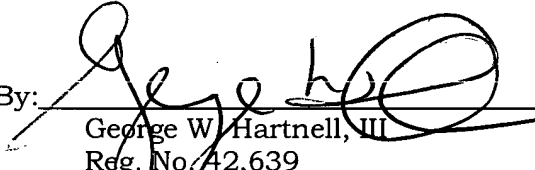
Claim 2

The deficiencies of the three patents have been discussed above. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, claim 2 is not made obvious by Nayar in view of Zimmermann and Ejiri, further in view of admitted prior art and, moreover, satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a). As such, the Applicants believe that claim 2 is allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

The Applicants believe that no additional fee is required for consideration of the within Response. However, if for any reason the fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

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